

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney District of Maryland

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FORMER BWI BAGGAGE HANDLER SENTENCED TO 14 YEARS FOR BANK FRAUD AND MAIL THEFT

Sophisticated Scheme Involved Over 250 Victims and Millions in Losses

BALTIMORE, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announces that today U.S. District Court Judge Marvin J. Garbis sentenced Kehinde Akintola Oladapo, age 48, of Lanham, Maryland to 14 years in prison followed by 5 years of supervised release for theft or receipt of stolen mail and conspiracy to commit bank fraud. Judge Garbis further ordered that Oladapo pay \$7 million in restitution and further ordered the liquidation of his assets in payment of restitution.

United States Attorney Rod Rosenstein stated "More than 250 individuals fell victim to this scheme, in which losses exceed \$7 million. The sentence imposed today holds the defendant accountable for the far-reaching impact of this identity theft scheme."

According to the statement of facts presented at his guilty plea on May 9, 2005, Kehinde Oladapo was a Southwest Airlines ramp agent. Sometime before or during 2001, Oladapo conspired to steal financial documents from the U.S. mail at BWI airport and transfer those financial documents to others for processing. The stolen mail contained checks and credit cards which were addressed to individuals who were not part of the conspiracy. The conspirators would use the stolen financial documents to obtain cash advances and withdrawals from lines of credit, as well as obtain goods and services paid for by credit accounts to which they were not entitled. Kehinde Oladapo received proceeds exceeding \$2,000 per month for the stolen financial documents and credit cards which he had sent to co-conspirators in New York and other locations using Express Mail.

"The successful resolution of this case demonstrates Postal Inspectors' commitment to protecting postal customers and the U.S. mail from criminal attack," said Guy J. Cottrell, Inspector in Charge, Washington Division, U.S. Postal Inspection Service. Inspector Cottrell expressed his thanks to U.S. Attorney Rosenstein's office for its aggressive prosecution of the case and New York

Division Postal Inspectors for their assistance in the investigation.

On May 25, 2005, a federal jury convicted Kehinde's wife, Olushola Oladapo, age 46, of Lanham, Maryland of possession of stolen mail and aiding and abetting in connection with mail stolen from BWI Airport and remailed to Brooklyn, New York. She is scheduled to be sentenced on October 5, 2005.

Co-conspirators Oladapo Udukale a/k/a Oladapo Odukale, age 34, of Brooklyn, New York, and Morsuru Sogbesan, age 38, of Brooklyn, New York, both pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail theft and conspiracy to commit bank fraud. They are scheduled to be sentenced on October 17, 2005.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and Inspectors from both Maryland and New York for their investigative work in this case. Mr. Rosenstein also praised Assistant United States Attorneys Tamera Fine and Kwame J. Manley, who prosecuted the case.